Network of Women in ITU-T Terms of Reference

Dedicated to promoting women in standardization, telecommunications/ICTs, and related fields, as well as recognizing both women and men who have made remarkable contributions in advocating for women and supporting their work in these fields.

NoW in ITU-T's Mission:

The mission of NoW in ITU-T is to enhance the appeal of standardization and telecommunications/ICTs development for women by providing opportunities for them to showcase their expertise, actively contribute to the standardization process, engage in continuous learning, impart knowledge to others, foster meaningful connections and advance their careers.

Achieving NoW in ITU-T's mission:

- Establishing regular programmes on a variety of topics in standardization and telecommunications/ICTs featuring various speakers with the aim of learning, sharing knowledge, connecting, and showcasing the latest innovative ideas in standardization and telecommunications/ICTs;

- Arranging special events to facilitate networking and draw attention to NoW in ITU-T and/or the telecommunications/ICTs developments and standardization Sector;

- Advocating for women into leadership roles within the telecommunications/ICTs and the standardization industry to support their career advancement and enhance their involvement in the overall standardization process;

- Setting targets to ensure that a certain percentage of women hold key ITU-T leadership positions in the upcoming Study Periods. This goal is supported by statistical evidence from the current Study Period and emphasizes the need for increased representation of women in leadership positions. The aim is to encourage Member States to nominate more women candidates for these key roles, recognizing the strategic value of diverse and inclusive leadership;

- Organizing a mentorship programme to provide members, especially young women in the industry, a mechanism where senior members of the NoW in ITU-T can impart practical knowledge and provide advice, the initiation of which will be pending available resources and volunteers;

- Recognizing women's outstanding achievements in telecommunications/ICTs development and standardization, in addition to men who make remarkable contributions to promoting women in these fields through NoW in ITU-T Awards nominations;

- Expanding the Network's outreach to the regions, through the appointment of a representative from each of the six (6) ITU regions to facilitate the network's objectives at the regional level, specifically in the activities leading up to WTSA;

- Generating resources, through voluntary contributions and fundraising activities to provide grants/scholarships to outstanding women in telecommunications/ICTs developments, standardization studies and related fields, and to fund stipends for female interns from developing countries pursuing education in these fields.

NoW in ITU-T team:
- Chair: Dr Rim Belhassine Cherif, Tunisia
- Vice-Chair: Mr. Tejpal Singh, India
- Six (6) Regional Representatives for WTSA:
    o Africa: Ms Rebecca Mukite, Uganda
    o Americas: Ms Tania Villa, Mexico
    o Arab States: Ms Basma Tawfik, Egypt
    o Asia and the Pacific: Ms Miho Naganuma, Japan
    o CIS: Ms Maria Bolshakova, RCC
    o Europe: Ms Izabela Iglewska, Poland
- ITU Secretariat: Ms May Thi Aye

Partners:
NoW in ITU-R, NoW in ITU-D, similar groups in various SDOs, i.e., IEC, ISO; UNECE, ITU Gender Task Force, UN Women, private companies, government entities.

Communication:
Ad-hoc communication on the official website and through the members mailing list nowinitut@lists.itu.int. Sign up here: IWM Web Application (itu.int)

Meetings:
At least once a year (e.g., annual luncheon, integrated sessions at key events, panel discussion, learning & development events, networking events).

Membership:
Open to women and men interested in the group.

These ToRs were updated on 26 May 2025 following TSAG 2025 meeting.

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